THESIS

WORD PAIRS IN RELATIONAL OPPOSITES IN FEHAN DIALECT OF TETUN LANGUAGE: CULTURAL LINGUISTIC PERSPECTIVES



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MOTTO

GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE BETTER THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO ARE PATIENT THE BEST THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO DON'T GIVE UP

(Helena Dahu Seran)

DEDICATION

THIS THESIS IS HEARTILY DEDICATED TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

- 1. My beloved sisters of the whole Congregation, my beloved sisters of the province and beloved sisters of the Community where I live and experience a life full of love, understanding, and support in whatever I do.
- 2. My beloved parents, brothers, sisters, and family members, who have been standing by my side in happy and sad moment.
- 3. My Almamater, Widya Mandira Catholic University, Kupang.

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This thesis might have not been perfect. It might still have many mistakes somewhere in the content, grammatical, and technical aspects. So the constructive criticisms are well received and appreciated.

The Writer

ABSTRACT

This study is entitled *Word Pairs in Relational Opposites in Fehan Dialect of Tetun Language: Cultural Linguistic Perspectives*. This title is specified into three problem statements formulated in the following questions. (1) What are the word pairs in relational opposites in Tetun Language? (2) What is the order of the word pair in relational opposites in Tetun Language? (3) What is the cultural imagery of the Tetun Language Speakers (TLS) that bases the word pair system in Tetun Language? This study intends to find out the kinds and order of the word pairs in relational opposites, and cultural imagery of the Tetun Language speakers that bases the word pairs. The result of the study is useful for both the academic world and the practical life of the society, especially the Tetun Language Speakers.

To inspire the writer in doing study, a number of previous related studies were reviewed. To easily understand, direct, and limit the discussion of the study, a number of theoretical concepts were defined. To analyze the data, the theory of semantics and cultural linguistics operating in lexical system, especially word pair was applied.

The data were obtained through elicitation, interview, and note taking. For this reason, some elicitations word pairs were prepared. The data were analyzed through steps: (1) listing the word pairs, (2) translating the words pairs into English by gloss and idiomatic gloss. (3) Interpreting the cultural imagery of the Tetun Language Speaker that bases the word pair system. The result of the data analysis is informally described or verbally described.

In line with the problem statement, there the writer found fourteen chunks of word pairs in relational opposites in Tetun Language and its order. The order of the word pairs in relational opposites include **FEMALE** – **MALE** : 7 chunks: *ina-ama*, father and mother 'fen-laen 'husband and wife, feto-mane 'man and woman' feton - nan ' brother and sister, ferik - katuas ' old man and old woman, bei feto-bei mane, 'grandfather and grandmother, oan feto - oan mane, 'male child and female child, **MALE** – **FEMALE**: 1 chunk, tua na' i- baba ' uncle and aunt, and the order of **OLDER** – **YOUNGER** 5 chunks, aman - oan ' father and child, inan - oan 'mother and child, maun - alin, ' elder brother and young brother/sister, bin - alin, 'elder sister and young sister/brother, matas - nurak,' old and young, the order of YOUNGER – OLDER: 1 chukn, kiik – bot, 'big and small' It is also found the cultural imagery of the TLS that bases the word pair system. The cultural imagery of the Tetun Language Speaker shows that the TLS prioritize the female and male for some reasons: protecting, giving respect, appreciation, and honour. TLS

prioritize the older for some reasons: giving respect, appreciation, and honour. TLS prioritize the younger for some reasons: protecting, taking care and respecting and giving precedence.

In accordance with the significance and the finding of the study some suggestions are proposed. (1) The linguistic researchers are hoped to conduct and continue study to confirm and extend the linguistic evidence in Tetun Language or in other local languages. (2) Other researcher candidates are suggested to design and conduct other researches focusing on other grammatical aspect of Tetun Language highlighted from the theory of cultural linguistics. (3) The TLS are suggested to keep speaking Tetun and attempt to know the cultural imageries of TLS that base other grammatical structures of Tetun Language.

Key Words: Cultural Imagery, Cultural Linguistic Perspective Tetun Language Tetun Language Speaker(TLS) Word Pairs in Relational Opposites

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